

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method comprising  
2 in a cell of a cellular wireless communication system,  
3 altering the SIR of at least one user in a sector of the cell by  
4 temporarily reducing transmissions on a forward link in at least  
5 one other sector of the cell or a sector in another cell in accordance  
6 with a pattern.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 in which the pattern is organized in  
2 a sequence of time slots and the pattern defines which of the  
3 sectors has transmissions turned on or off in each of the time slots.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 in which the pattern comprises a  
2 predetermined fixed pattern that is repeated as time passes.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 also including  
2 determining a current state of transmissions in at least one  
3 of the sectors of the cell or a sector in another cell, and  
4 setting the pattern dynamically based on the determined  
5 state of the transmissions.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 in which the current state of  
2 transmissions includes the scheduling status of transmissions in  
3 neighboring sectors in the cell or in one or more other cells
- 1 6. The method of claim 5 in which the current state of  
2 transmissions includes the transmission rates of some neighbor  
3 sectors.

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4 control facilities connected to the wireless transmission  
5 facilities and configured to alter the SIR of at least one user in a  
6 sector of the cell by temporarily reducing transmissions on a  
7 forward link in at least one other sector of the cell or a sector in  
8 another cell in accordance with a pattern.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16 in which the control facilities  
2 comprise sector controllers for controlling the wireless  
3 transmission facilities for the respective sectors.

1 18. A medium bearing intelligence configured to enable a  
2 machine to effect the actions that comprise:

3 in a cell of a cellular wireless communication system,  
4 altering the SIR of at least one user in a sector of the cell by  
5 temporarily reducing transmissions on a forward link in at least  
6 one other sector of the cell or a sector in another cell in accordance  
7 with a pattern.

1 19. Apparatus comprising

2 a sector controller adapted to control transmissions in a  
3 sector of a cell of a wireless communication system and to  
4 communicate with other sector controllers in the cell or in one or  
5 more other cells to coordinate the turning on and off of  
6 transmissions in at least one of the sectors based on the  
7 transmission state in at least another one of the sectors.

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